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By Chery Schoenfeld  
Chery Schoenfeld

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Attorney Docket No. NECV 16.966

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Kazuyoshi Ueno

Serial No.: 09/490,705

Filed: January 24, 2000

Title: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND A METHOD FOR FORMING A VIA HOLE IN A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**

Examiner:

Art Unit: 1765

March 7, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Also attached is a copy of a Japanese Patent Office Action dated February 9, 2001.

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

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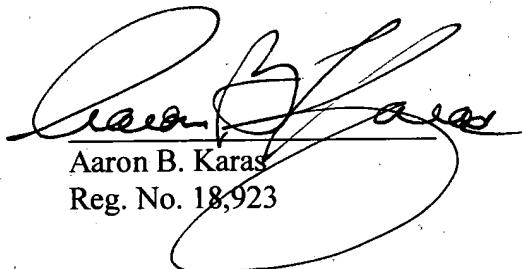
As these documents are written in a language other than English, English language abstracts are annexed thereto explaining their relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a) and 1.106 (b), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account 08-1634.

Respectfully submitted,



Aaron B. Karas  
Reg. No. 18,923

HELGOTT & KARAS, P.C.  
EMPIRE STATE BUILDING  
60TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10118  
(212) 643-5000  
DOCKET NO. NECV 16.966